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formed from the polyol and the aldehyde used as the extracting reagent in distillation under an atmospheric pressure for separating the extracting reagent since aldehyde which is used as the extracting reagent is very reactive itself. For example, when the aliphatic aldehyde is normal-butyraldehyde (referred to as NBAL, hereinafter) and the polyol is trimethylolpropane (referred to as TMP, hereinafter), TMP-NBAL acetal expressed by formula (iii):

$$CH_2O-CH-C_3H_7$$
 $C_2H_5-C-CH_2O$
 CH_2OH (iii)

is formed as a byproduct. NBAL aldol expressed by formula (iv):

$$C_2H_5$$
- CH - CHO
$$C_3H_7$$
- CHOH
(iv)

is formed as another byproduct by the reaction between NBAL molecules. Moreover, methanol and 2-alkenol expressed by formula (v):

$$CH_2 = C - CHO$$

$$C_2H_5 \qquad (v)$$

which is an intermediate reaction product of methanol and TMP contained in the reaction product liquid is extracted. These compounds are separated and recovered together with the